

## Sermon Notes

Wi-Fi password for westwoodguestsecured: westwoodguest

### **Shipwrecked Under the Sovereign Hand of God**

Acts 27:1 – 28:10 (pew Bible pg. 936-937)

When we began our study in the book of Acts, this was the commission given by Christ: *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*” (Acts 1:8) As we near the end of Acts, that commission is reaching ‘the end of the earth’ as it was then known.

Rome was the center of the world in Paul’s day, and at the center of Paul’s ministry plans. It was the desire of his heart to take the gospel to the far reaches of the gentile world, with Rome as the jumping off point. The long difficult journey that takes him there comes to its dramatic end in today’s passage.

This is an amazing, well-written account. As we read it, two extremes should be avoided. Some say the story is just that – a preexisting storm narrative that Luke inserted Paul into as a central character. (Merida) This view cannot be supported and should be rejected. The other extreme is to make the story an allegory about the storms of life with every detail having a symbolic meaning. This passage is much more than an allegory.

This event really happened, and from this account we can receive great encouragement and confidence as we walk with God on mission and seek to fulfill his commission.

Common sense and wisdom under the sovereign hand of God (27:1-12)

Revelation and encouragement under the sovereign hand of God (27:13-26)

Practical advice and thanksgiving under the sovereign hand of God (27:27-39)

Mercy and safety under the sovereign hand of God (27:40-28:10)

## Sermon Notes

Wi-Fi password for westwoodguestsecured: westwoodguest

### **Shipwrecked Under the Sovereign Hand of God**

Acts 27:1 – 28:10 (pew Bible pg. 936-937)

When we began our study in the book of Acts, this was the commission given by Christ: *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*” (Acts 1:8) As we near the end of Acts, that commission is reaching ‘the end of the earth’ as it was then known.

Rome was the center of the world in Paul’s day, and at the center of Paul’s ministry plans. It was the desire of his heart to take the gospel to the far reaches of the gentile world, with Rome as the jumping off point. The long difficult journey that takes him there comes to its dramatic end in today’s passage.

This is an amazing, well-written account. As we read it, two extremes should be avoided. Some say the story is just that – a preexisting storm narrative that Luke inserted Paul into as a central character. (Merida) This view cannot be supported and should be rejected. The other extreme is to make the story an allegory about the storms of life with every detail having a symbolic meaning. This passage is much more than an allegory.

This event really happened, and from this account we can receive great encouragement and confidence as we walk with God on mission and seek to fulfill his commission.

Common sense and wisdom under the sovereign hand of God (27:1-12)

Revelation and encouragement under the sovereign hand of God (27:13-26)

Practical advice and thanksgiving under the sovereign hand of God (27:27-39)

Mercy and safety under the sovereign hand of God (27:40-28:10)

## Weekly Discipleship Guide

### Sunday

*In your journal, reflect on today's sermon by answering the following:*

I never knew: I was challenged:  
I was reminded: I was convicted:  
A question I still have: A truth I could share:

**Know**

### Monday

*Spend some time today doing the following:*

Read the sermon passage again.  
Select a portion of this week's sermon passage to memorize this week.  
Write your selected portion and read it to yourself at least 10 times throughout the day.

**Know > Be**

### Tuesday

*In your journal, spend some time writing about the following:*

Read the sermon passage again.  
Write a prayer of response, guided by the passage.  
(May include adoration, confession/repentance, thanksgiving, petition, etc...)  
Write your selected portion of the Scripture several times to aid in memorization.

**Be**

### Wednesday

*Think about this week's questions for group discussion:*

In what ways did Paul display effective spiritual and practical leadership on this trip? What are the spiritual distinguishing attributes that set Paul apart from the others who journeyed with him?  
What do we learn about friendship from this passage? Why are Christian friendships so important to individual believers, and how do we see Paul valuing friendships in this narrative?  
How do we see kindness extended from Paul toward non-believers, even in the face of their own stubbornness and foolishness? How do we see kindness extended from non-believers?  
How should we respond to the hospitality and kind invitations of non-believers?

**Be > Do**

### Thursday

*In your journal, spend some time considering the following:*

What insights have you had while internalizing this week's passage?  
How specifically will you seek to apply its truths in your home/workplace/life in general?

**Do**

\*Use this guide to help you internalize this week's passage & message.

## Weekly Discipleship Guide

### Sunday

*In your journal, reflect on today's sermon by answering the following:*

I never knew: I was challenged:  
I was reminded: I was convicted:  
A question I still have: A truth I could share:

**Know**

### Monday

*Spend some time today doing the following:*

Read the sermon passage again.  
Select a portion of this week's sermon passage to memorize this week.  
Write your selected portion and read it to yourself at least 10 times throughout the day.

**Know > Be**

### Tuesday

*In your journal, spend some time writing about the following:*

Read the sermon passage again.  
Write a prayer of response, guided by the passage.  
(May include adoration, confession/repentance, thanksgiving, petition, etc...)  
Write your selected portion of the Scripture several times to aid in memorization.

**Be**

### Wednesday

*Think about this week's questions for group discussion:*

In what ways did Paul display effective spiritual and practical leadership on this trip? What are the spiritual distinguishing attributes that set Paul apart from the others who journeyed with him?  
What do we learn about friendship from this passage? Why are Christian friendships so important to individual believers, and how do we see Paul valuing friendships in this narrative?  
How do we see kindness extended from Paul toward non-believers, even in the face of their own stubbornness and foolishness? How do we see kindness extended from non-believers?  
How should we respond to the hospitality and kind invitations of non-believers?

**Be > Do**

### Thursday

*In your journal, spend some time considering the following:*

What insights have you had while internalizing this week's passage?  
How specifically will you seek to apply its truths in your home/workplace/life in general?

**Do**

\*Use this guide to help you internalize this week's passage & message.

### Westwood Staff

**Gerald Hodges:** Lead Pastor  
**Jonathan Taylor:** Associate Pastor  
**Jim Fulp:** Counseling Pastor  
**Jason Engle:** Pastor of Students  
& Discipleship  
**Katie Austin:** Children's Ministry  
Coordinator

### Contact Us

336.599.1982  
westwoodroxboro@gmail.com  
www.westwoodfamily.org

### Upcoming Events

Nov 4 - AHG / TLU  
GriefShare  
Nov 5 - Celebrate Recovery  
Nov 8 - PHS @ NE Guilford (Final Game)  
Nov 9 - PCLC Cooking Class  
Nov 11 - Veteran's Day  
Nov 15 - Membership Class  
Nov 18 - GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays

### Westwood Staff

**Gerald Hodges:** Lead Pastor  
**Jonathan Taylor:** Associate Pastor  
**Jim Fulp:** Counseling Pastor  
**Jason Engle:** Pastor of Students  
& Discipleship  
**Katie Austin:** Children's Ministry  
Coordinator

### Contact Us

336.599.1982  
westwoodroxboro@gmail.com  
www.westwoodfamily.org

### Upcoming Events

Nov 4 - AHG / TLU  
GriefShare  
Nov 5 - Celebrate Recovery  
Nov 8 - PHS @ NE Guilford (Final Game)  
Nov 9 - PCLC Cooking Class  
Nov 11 - Veteran's Day  
Nov 15 - Membership Class  
Nov 18 - GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays